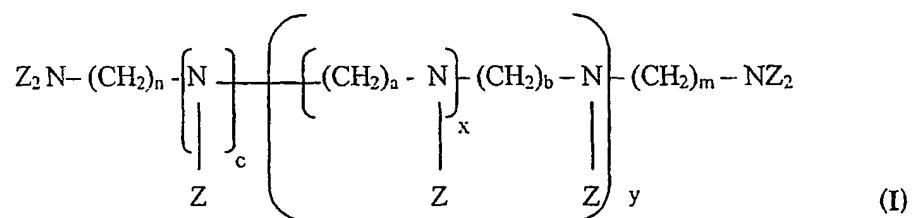


CLAIMS

1. A compound for use as, or in connection with, a white rust corrosion inhibitor for water-treatment, said compound consisting of an organophosphonate having the general formula (I):



Wherein

$Z = -CHR_1PO_3R_2$

$R = H, CH_3, C_2H_5$ or M

10 $R^1 = H, CH_3, CR_3, C_6H_5$, or SO_3H_2

$M =$ alkali metal or ammonium ion

$n = 0$ to 10

$m = 0$ to 10

$a = 0$ to 10

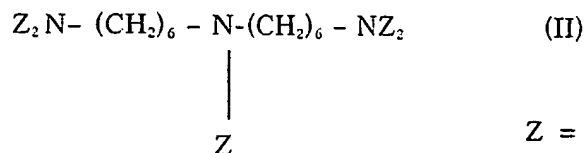
15 $b = 0$ to 10

$c = 0$ or 1

$x = 0$ to 10

$y = 0$ to 10

- 20 2. A compound as claimed in Claim 1, in which R and R^1 each = H , $n = 6$, $m = 6$, $c = 1$, $y = 0$ whereby the compound is bis(hexamethylene)triamine-pentakis (methylene phosphonic acid), as in formula (II):



3. A compound for use as a white rust corrosion inhibitor for water-treatment, said compound being a random copolymer of vinylidene diphosphonic acid and vinyl sulphonic acid in a molar ratio of
5 between 1:1 and 1:500.
4. A compound as claimed in Claim 3, in which the molar ratio is 1:100 molar.
- 10 5. A compound as claimed in Claim 3 or Claim 4, in which the molar ratio is 1:20 molar.
6. A composition for use as, or in connection with a corrosion inhibitor for water-treatment, said composition comprising a
15 phosphonated oligomer according to Claim 1 or a random copolymer of vinylidene diphosphonic acid and vinyl sulphonic acid, according to Claim 2, together with additives conventionally used in the water treatment industry.
- 20 7. A composition as claimed in Claim 6 in which the additives are selected from the group consisting of phosphonocarboxylic acids or salts and dispersants.
8. A composition as claimed in Claim 6 or Claim 7 in which the
25 dispersant is a polyacrylate.

9. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 6 to 8 in which the composition comprises a biocide.

10. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 6 to 9 in which the
5 phosphnocarboxylic acid or salt is a phosphonated oligomer of maleic acid, of general formula (III):



10 wherein M is a cation such that the oligomer is soluble in water, and n is greater than 1.

11. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 6 to 9, in which the
polyacrylate compound is a low molecular weight polymer having a
15 molecular weight between 2000 to 5000.

12. A method for inhibiting corrosion in, or in connection with, a
water-using system, said method consisting of the application or addition
to said system of an effective amount of a phosphonated oligomer
20 according to Claim 1 or a random copolymer of vinylidene diphosphonic acid and vinyl sulphonic acid according to Claim 2 or of a composition according to Claim 3.

13. A method as claimed in Claim 12 in which the method consists of
25 the application to a metal prior to contact with water of an effective amount of a phosphonated oligomer according to Claim 1 or a random copolymer of vinylidene diphosphonic acid and vinyl sulphonic acid according to Claim 2 or of a composition according to Claim 3.

13

14. A method as claimed in Claim 12 or 13, in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 1000 ppm.

15. A method as claimed in Claims 12 to Claim 14, in which the
5 oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 250 ppm.

16. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 12 to 15 in which the oligomer or copolymer is used in an effective amount of up to 100 ppm.

10